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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Shuji KUROKAWA**

Group Art Unit: **2877**

Serial No.: **10/689,525**

Examiner: **LAUCHMAN, LAYLA G.**

Filed: **October 21, 2003**

Confirmation No.: **8632**

For: **ALIGNMENT APPARATUS**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 30, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of the document (except U.S. patent) is attached.

Documents AA, AF through AK were cited in a Search Report for the corresponding British Patent Application. A copy of the Search Report is also enclosed.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date (or the entry of the national stage) of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this

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application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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38834

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449, 6 references and British Search Report



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No.: 032036	Serial No.: 10/689,525
	Applicants: Shuji KUROKAWA	
	Filing Date: October 21, 2003	Group Art Unit: 2877

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA	2002/0101596 A1	Park et al.	08/01/2002	356 614	12/19/2001
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF 1 321 968	06/25/2003	Europe	N/A
_____	AG 2002-329769	11/15/2002	Japan	Yes (Abstract Only)
_____	AH 1 320 121	06/18/2003	Europe	N/A
_____	AI 2002-148019	05/22/2002	Japan	Yes (Abstract Only)
_____	AJ 57-198642	12/06/1982	Japan	Yes (Abstract Only)

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	HEE-SUB LEE et al. "A 12-inch wafer prealigner", Microprocessors and Microsystems (Elsevier Science B. V.), Vol. 27 (2003), pp 151-158
_____	AL	
Examiner		Date Considered